REMARKS

Claims 1 and 8 were rejected on the ground of double patenting of the obviousness type over claims 6 through 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,345,140 (the '140 Patent).

Claims 2 through 7 and 9 through 16 were rejected on the ground of double patenting of the obviousness type over claims 1 and 6 through 8 of the '140 Patent in view of Sugizaki.

Each of the above rejections is traversed. Specifically, submitted herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer (Exhibit A) with respect to the '140 Patent, thereby overcoming the imposed rejections on the ground of double patenting of the obviousness type. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 8 on the grounds of double patenting of the obviousness type over claims 6 through 8 of the '140 Patent and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2 through 7 and 9 through 16 on the ground of double patenting of the obviousness type over claims 1 and 6 through 8 of the '140 Patent in view of Sugizaki is solicited.

Based upon the foregoing, it should be apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance.

Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Arthur J. Steiner

Registration No. 26,106

600 13th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096 (202) 756-8000 AJS:ntb Facsimile: (202) 756-8087

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